



# NORTH LANGLEY TRAPPERS Baseball

## Summer Ball

**Q What is Summer Ball?**

**A** Summer Ball is an elite All-Star program that is available in each division from Tadpole through Midget.

In Tadpole we form one, possibly two teams (depending on the number of players trying out). Tadpole Summer Ball plays modified Mosquito Rules, where a hard ball is used, 9 players on the field, and live pitching in all innings.

In Mosquito we form a Mosquito AAA Tier-2 team comprised of the best players in the division. A Mosquito A team, comprised of 1<sup>st</sup> year players is the next team selected. Once these two teams are filled we then determine if there is enough interest in a AA team, which can be comprised of 2<sup>nd</sup> year and 1<sup>st</sup> year players.

In Pee Wee we form a Pee Wee AAA team, a Pee Wee AA team, and a Pee Wee A team (the Pee Wee A team is only open to players who played at the Pee Wee A level during regular season).

In Bantam we form a Bantam A team (the Bantam A team is only open to players who played at the Bantam A level during regular season). The Bantam AAA and AA levels play a combined spring and summer season.

In Midget we form a Midget AA team. The Midget AAA level plays a combined spring and summer season.

**Q When is the Summer Ball season?**

**A** Summer Ball begins with tryouts in late May early June, with games beginning around the first week of July.

Tadpole Summer Ball season lasts for the month of July with 2 games per week and a season ending tournament (the weekend prior to the August long weekend). This league travels to neighboring associations typically Surrey, Newton and North Delta, Ladner and Aldergrove for games.

Mosquito Summer Ball season has Provincial play down games (2 games per week), plus weekend tournaments. Teams that are successful in the Provincial Play Down round qualify for Provincials (August Long Weekend)

PeeWee, Bantam and Midget Summer Ball seasons have Provincial play down games (2 games per week), plus weekend tournaments. Teams that are successful in the Provincial Play Down round qualify for Provincials (August Long Weekend or weekend after). These teams can also qualify for Western and National Finals.

**Q Who is eligible to play Summer Ball?**

**A** All players who play in North Langley in the spring season are eligible to try out for our Summer Ball teams.



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**Q How are the players selected for a Summer Ball team?**

**A** The Summer Ball teams are determined by open tryouts. Depending on the division, there may be a single tryout session for all players, or there may be separate tryout sessions for each level of play (A, AA and AAA) that we participate in at that age group. There could also be multiple tryout sessions, especially when it comes to trying to decide who the players will be to fill out the final spots on the roster.

After the tryouts, the division coordinator and coaches will evaluate the results and make the final determination as to which players will make the team or not. (Executive approval required)

This means that the best players (who are committed to attending practices and games, and will be available to play in the Provincials) will be selected for each team. This also means that some kids who try out could unfortunately be cut and not be selected for a team.

**Q How many games would we play in Summer Ball?**

**A** This largely depends on the division and level of play, and how successful the team is (I.E. whether they qualify for provincials, or whether they qualify for semi-finals or final games in tournaments entered). But a typical Summer Ball team, between tournaments, exhibition games, and Provincial play down games, is likely to play in 18 to 23 games.

**Q How many practices would there be?**

**A** As with all teams, the number of and schedule of practices is up to the individual coaches. However, as the goal of all Summer Ball team is to be competitive at a provincial level, you should expect to have 3 or more practices per week (depending on the level of play, and the number of games during the week).

**Q What is the benefit for me or my child?**

**A** Firstly, being able to play any sport at a provincial level is an accomplishment that any child should be proud of, and it will be an experience that they will always remember. As well, your child will essentially play an entire extra season of baseball in each year that they participate in Summer Ball. They will be playing with players of a higher skill level than they may have played with in the spring season. They will possibly be receiving better coaching (or coaches will be able to coach at a more advanced level) than in spring season. This means that your child's skill levels will increase proportionally for each Summer Ball season they participate in.

**Q What is the downside of Summer Ball?**

**A** Summer Ball requires a significant commitment on your part. You need to commit to having your child available to participate in practices, games and tournaments from the start of July to possibly the middle of August.

**Q We have a vacation planned for July, does that mean we cannot participate?**

**A** The only advice here is to come out to tryouts, and talk to the coach of the team. Depending on the division and the level of ball, it may be ok to miss a week during the Summer Ball season



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(providing it wouldn't be during Provincials). But the coach would need to take it into consideration when making final roster selections.

**Q Is there an additional cost for Summer Ball?**

**A** Yes, there is an additional Registration Fee for Summer Ball. This fee is collected in July when your child has made the Summer Ball team.

**Q Can I coach my child's Summer Ball team?**

**A** Any coach who wishes to apply to head coach a team in the Summer Ball season must submit a letter of intent to the Executive (assistant coaches will be selected by each head coach). The coach's child should be of the skill level of the team that their parent is coaching.